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Queue Dashboard Starter Edition User's Guide

Explorer Version 1.0.0

Graham Alderson & Phil Blake

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Introduction

This document describes the Explorer version of Grail Software Solutions (GSS) Queue Dashboard Starter Edition. This version consists of an Eclipse™ feature to be installed in the IBM® WebSphere® MQ Explorer. There is another (client) version of GSS Queue Dashboard which can be installed in its own Eclipse™ alongside a WebSphere® MQ Client and that is described in another document.

GSS Queue Dashboard adds a new context menu contribution to all non-system local queues in the Queues content page. One or more GSS Queue Dashboards can be launched simultaneously.

GSS Queue Dashboard can be used to generate (PUT) messages on a WMQ queue, consume (GET) messages from a WMQ queue, showing message PUT and GET rates graphically in various formats. The current queue depth is also shown graphically. Each action has its own view on the dashboard.

Only messages generated by GSS Queue Dashboard will be consumed.

Installation

Minimum Requirements

Minimum requirements to use GSS Queue Dashboard Explorer version is

- Windows 7®
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ Server 7.0.1.8
  or
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ SupportPac MS0T 7.0.1.8 from
  www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#3

Supported Environments

There are many environments that the GSS Queue Dashboard Explorer version could potentially be run in – various 7.x versions of the IBM® WebSphere® MQ Server and 7.x versions of IBM® WebSphere® MQ SupportPac MS0T and the operating systems they both support.

As a small company with limited time and resources, at present we have only tested the GSS Queue Dashboard Explorer version in the following environments:

- Windows 7® SP1
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ Server 7.0.1.8, 7.1.0.0 and 7.5.0.0
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ SupportPac MS0T 7.0.1.8 and 7.1.0.0
- connecting to a queue manager on IBM® WebSphere® MQ 7.0.1.8, 7.1.0.0 and 7.5.0.0 also on Windows 7 SP1

While we would expect the GSS Queue Dashboard Explorer version to install and run correctly in other environments, for example on other versions of Windows® or on the various Linux® distributions, as they are currently untested we would not be able to guarantee this is the case.

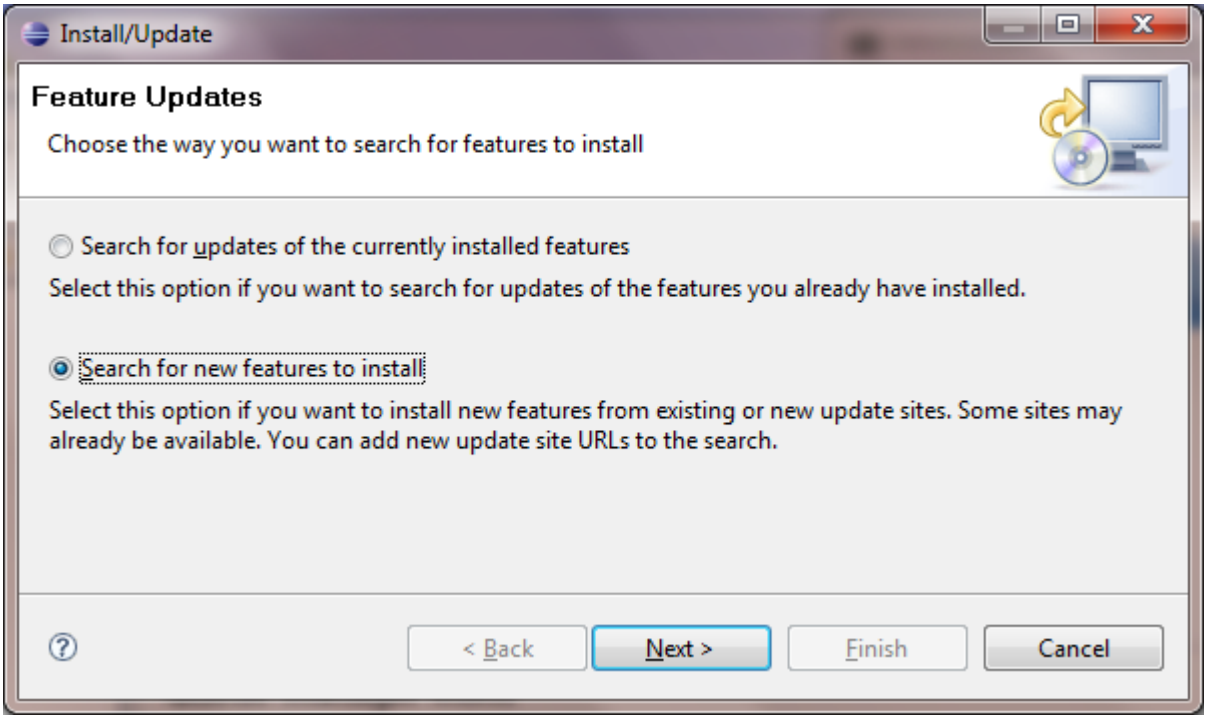
Installing GSS Queue Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.0.x

The file called ms0u_explorer.zip can be downloaded as part of the **MS0U** SupportPac from www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#4. Unzip the file into a temporary location, for example, c:\temp\ms0u_explorer

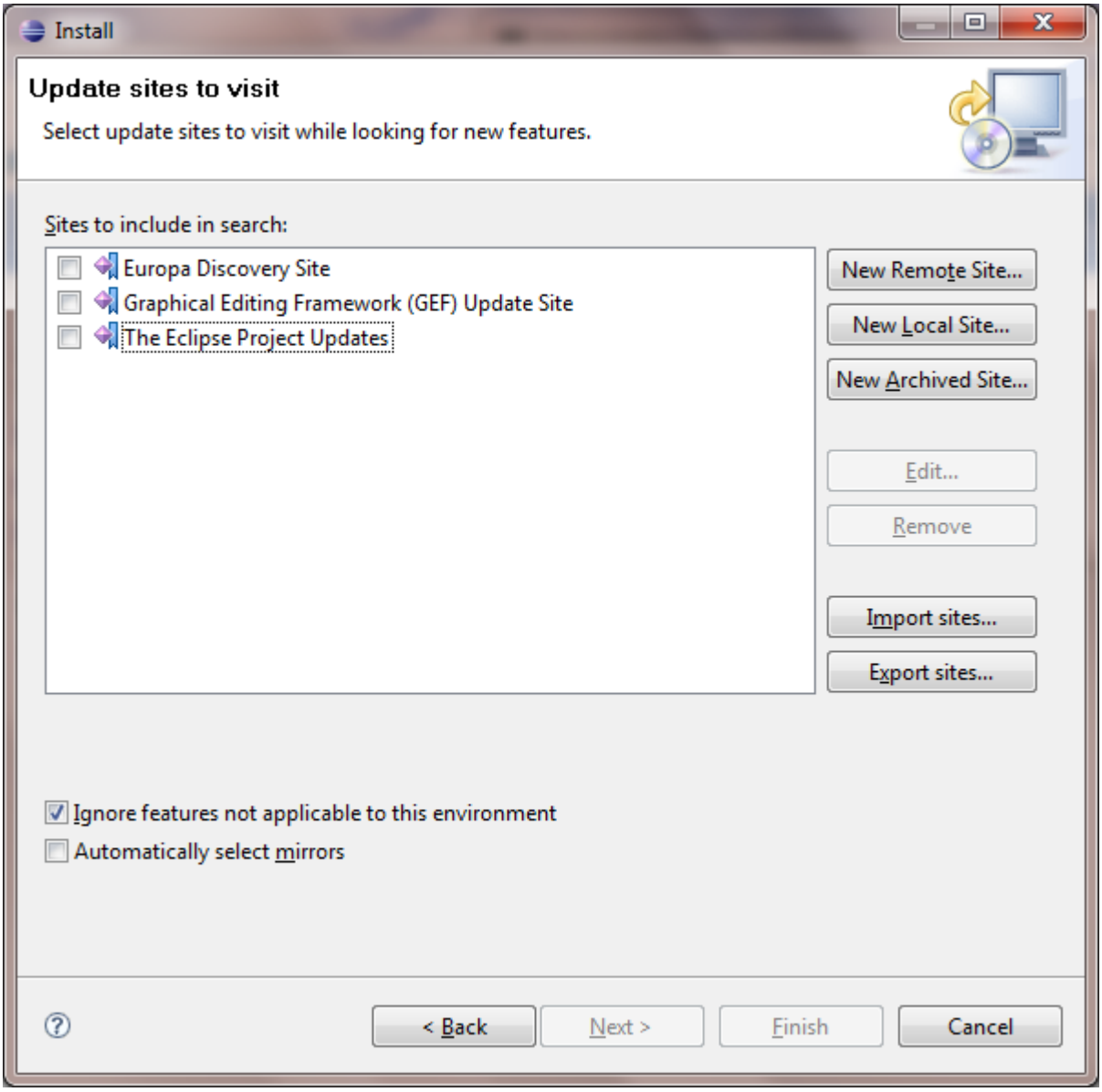
When installing, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select "WebSphere MQ Explorer" from the "IBM WebSphere MQ" folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to "Run as administrator".

Make sure MQ Explorer is running in workbench mode, open the Preferences dialog (select the "Window → Preferences..." menu item) and select the "WebSphere MQ Explorer" tree node. The option "in an Eclipse Workbench" needs to be selected and then the MQ Explorer needs to be restarted.

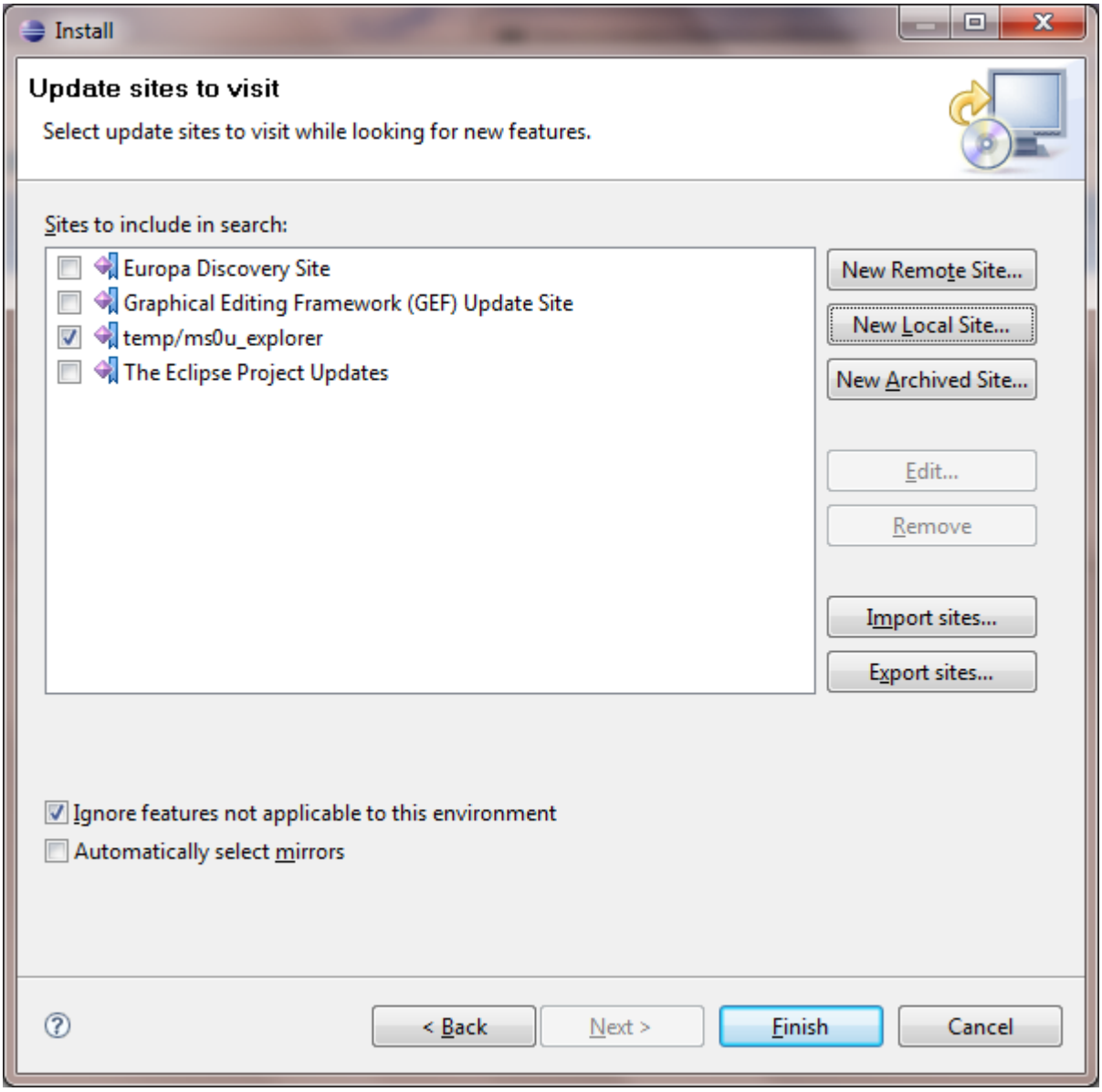
Select the "Help → Software Updates → Find and Install..." menu item.


Install/Update
Feature Updates
Choose the way you want to search for features to install
Search for updates of the currently installed features
Select this option if you want to search for updates of the features you already have installed.
Search for new features to install
Select this option if you want to install new features from existing or new update sites. Some sites may already be available. You can add new update site URLs to the search.
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

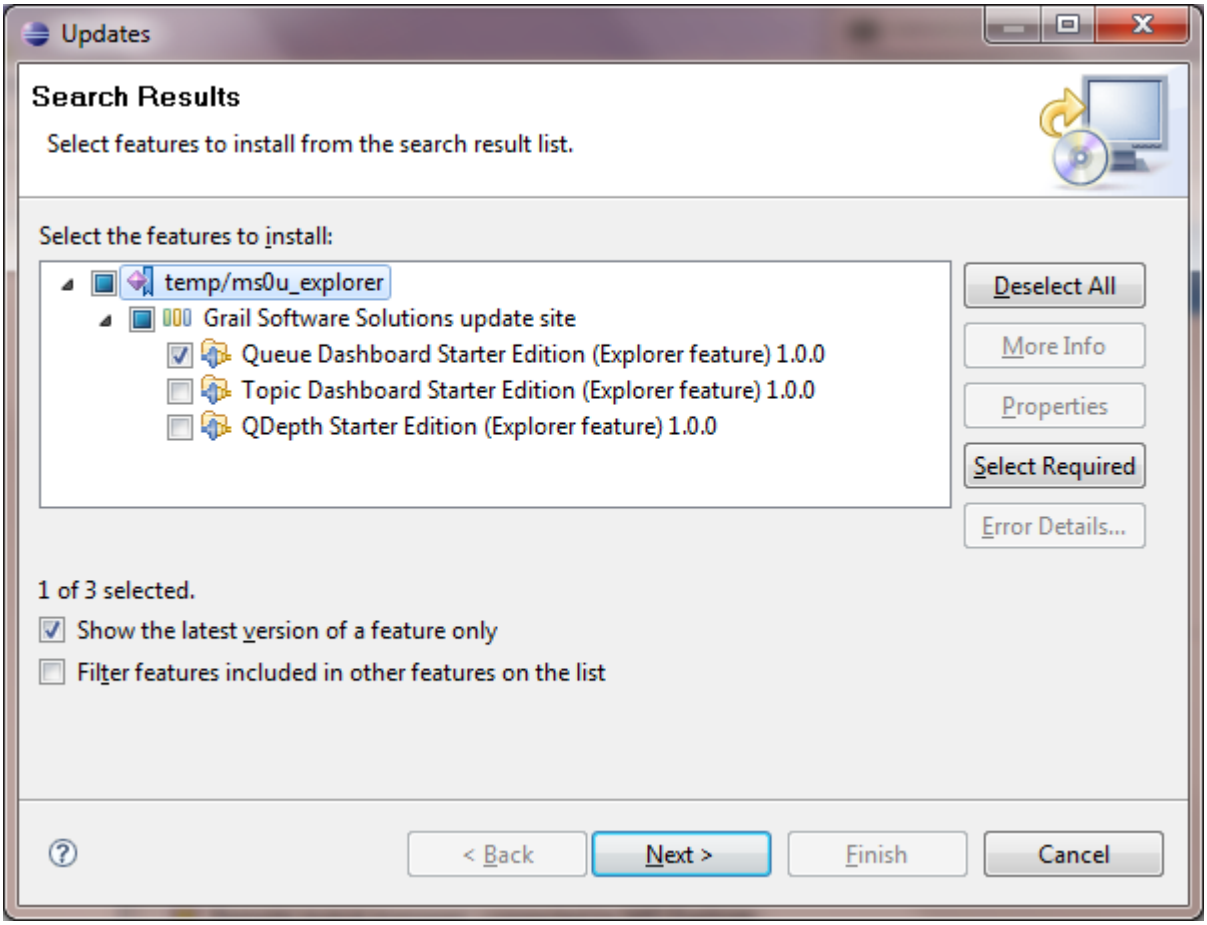
1. Select “Search for new features to install” and press the “Next” button.



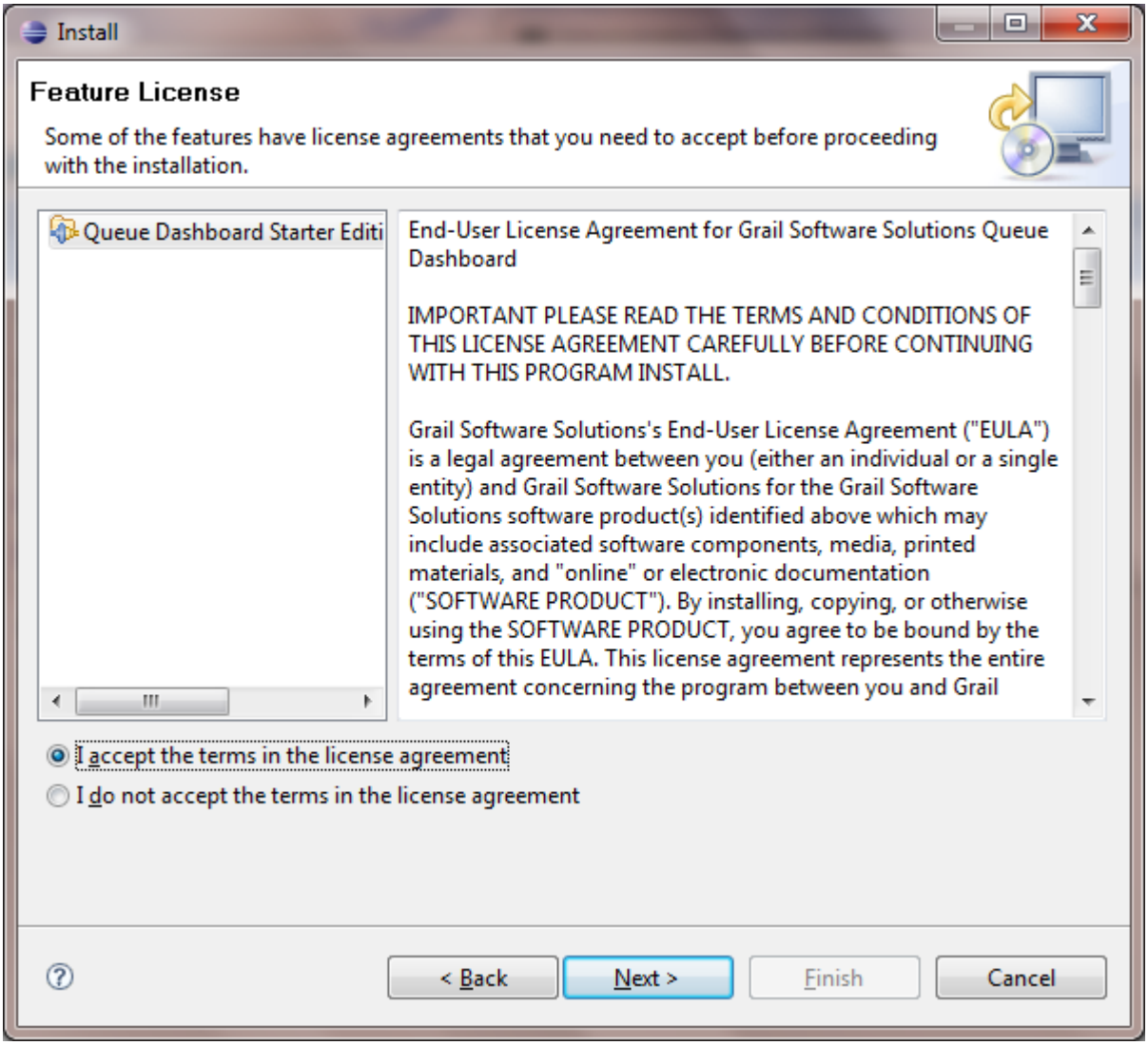
2. Press the "New Local Site..." button
3. Select the directory containing the GSS Queue Dashboard site.xml file (for example c:\temp\ms0u_explorer).



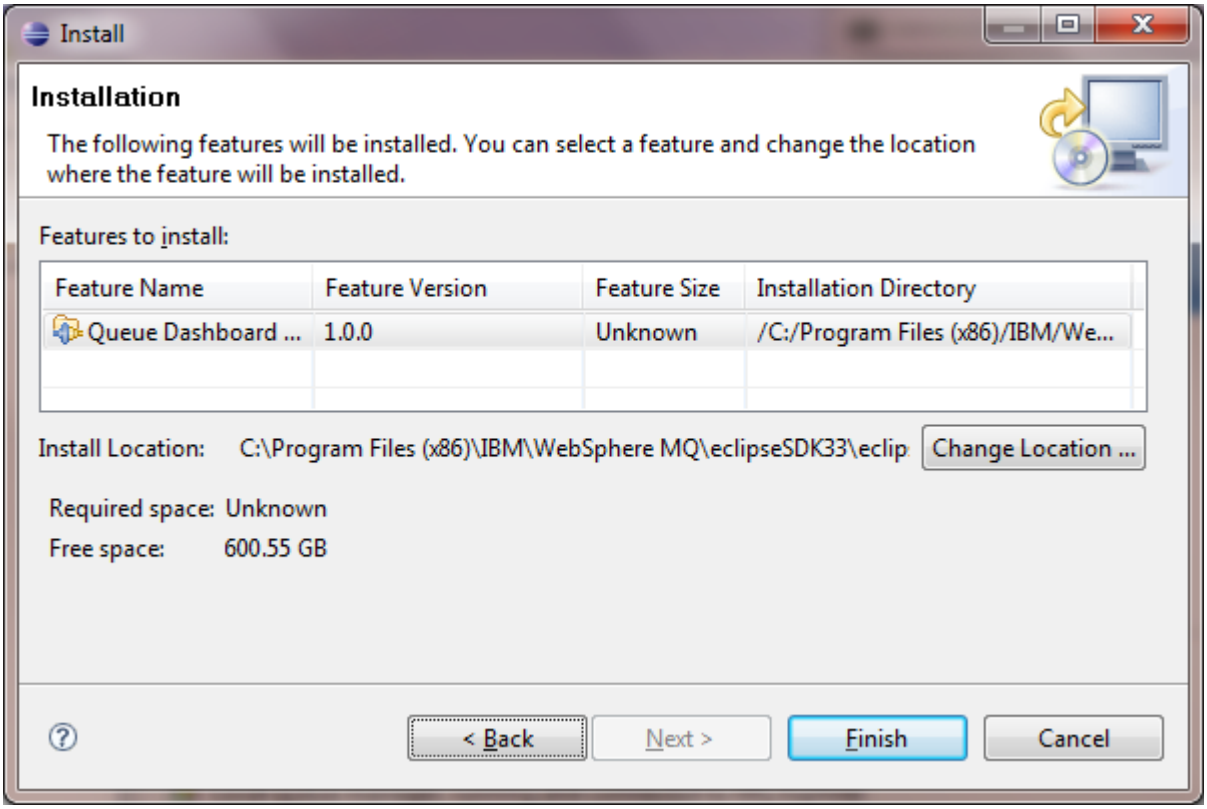
4. Press the “Finish” button



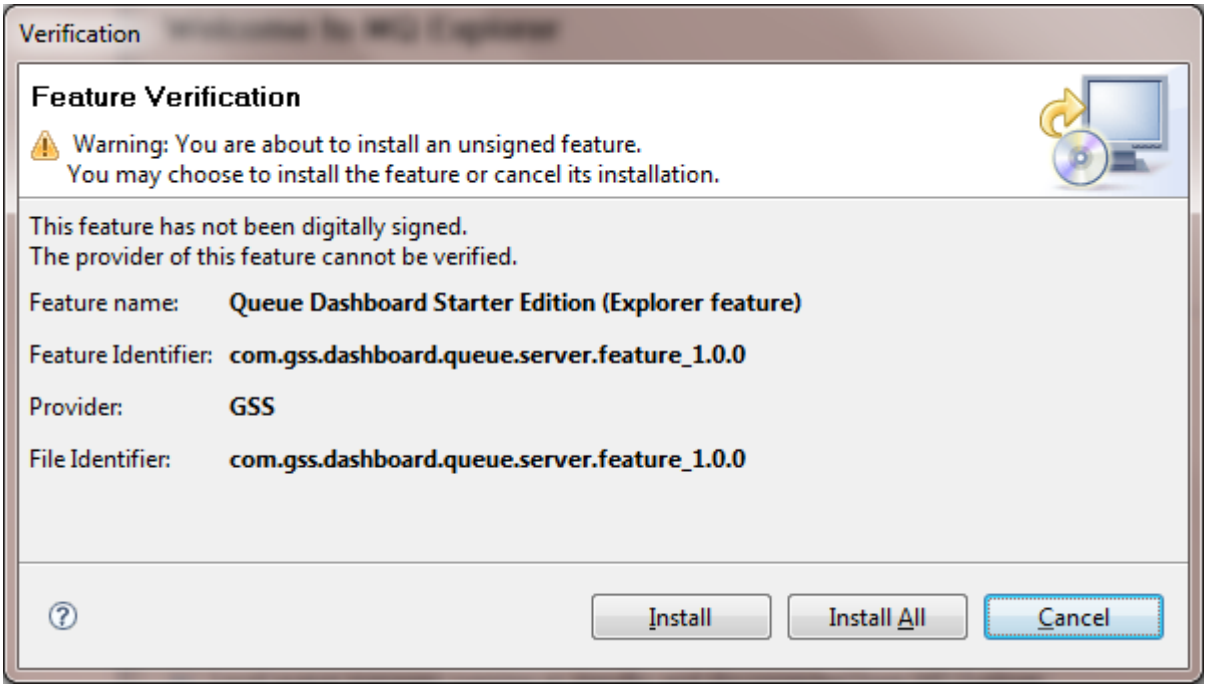
5. From the Updates dialog, expand the “temp/ms0u_explorer” node and select the GSS Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) from the list.
6. Press the “Next” button to see the Feature License dialog.


Install
Feature License
Some of the features have license agreements that you need to accept before proceeding with the installation.
Queue Dashboard Starter Editi
End-User License Agreement for Grail Software Solutions Queue Dashboard
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING WITH THIS PROGRAM INSTALL.
Grail Software Solutions's End-User License Agreement ("EULA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity) and Grail Software Solutions for the Grail Software Solutions software product(s) identified above which may include associated software components, media, printed materials, and "online" or electronic documentation ("SOFTWARE PRODUCT"). By installing, copying, or otherwise using the SOFTWARE PRODUCT, you agree to be bound by the terms of this EULA. This license agreement represents the entire agreement concerning the program between you and Grail
I accept the terms in the license agreement
I do not accept the terms in the license agreement
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

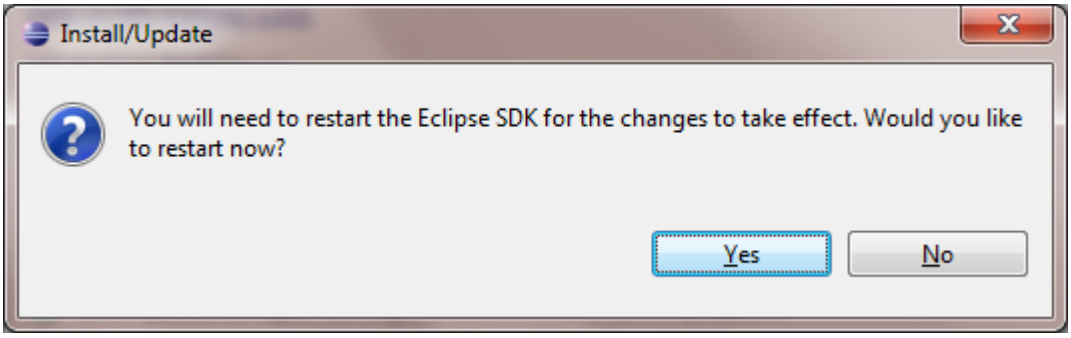
7. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement
8. Press the “Next” button



9. Press the “Finish” button (or “Cancel” to stop the installation)


Verification
Feature Verification
Warning: You are about to install an unsigned feature.
You may choose to install the feature or cancel its installation.
This feature has not been digitally signed.
The provider of this feature cannot be verified.
Feature name: Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
Feature Identifier: com.gss.dashboard.queue.server.feature_1.0.0
Provider: GSS
File Identifier: com.gss.dashboard.queue.server.feature_1.0.0
Install
Install All
Cancel

10. Press the “Install” or “Install All” button.


Install/Update
You will need to restart the Eclipse SDK for the changes to take effect. Would you like to restart now?
Yes
No

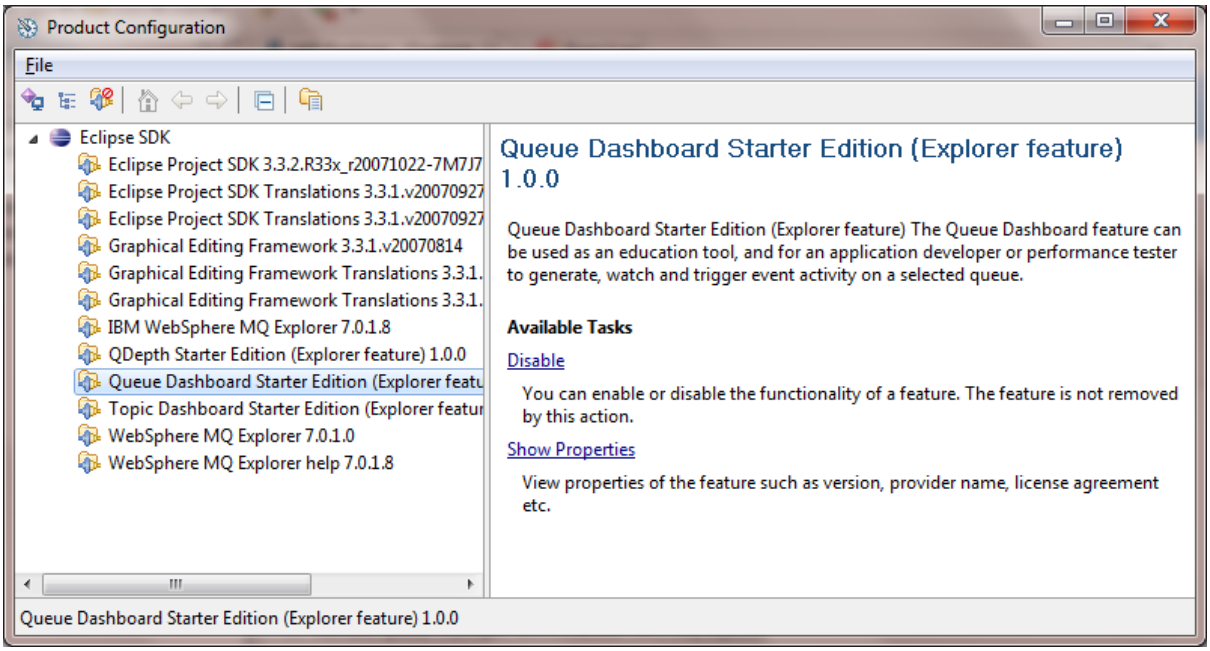
11. Press the “Yes” button to restart the MQ Explorer.

Uninstalling GSS Queue Dashboard from MQ Explorer 7.0.x

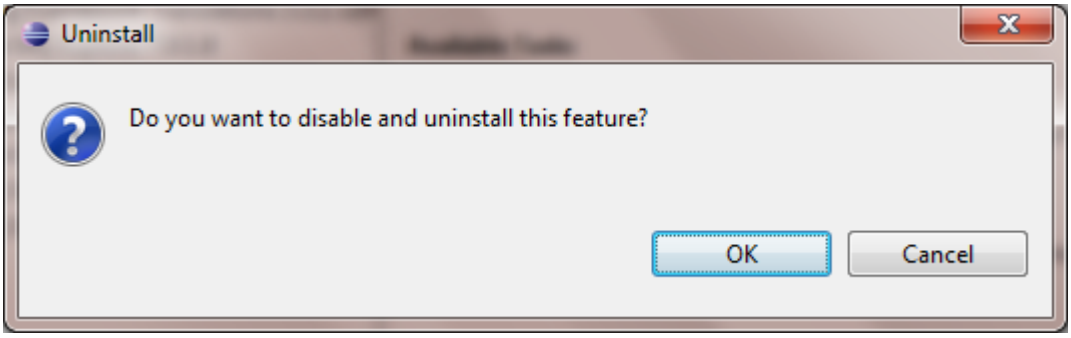
When uninstalling, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select “WebSphere MQ Explorer” from the “IBM WebSphere MQ” folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right mouse button and choose the option to “Run as administrator”.

Make sure MQ Explorer is running in workbench mode, open the Preferences dialog (select the “Window → Preferences...” menu item) and check the “WebSphere MQ Explorer” tree node. The option “in an Eclipse Workbench” needs to be selected and then the MQ Explorer needs to be restarted.

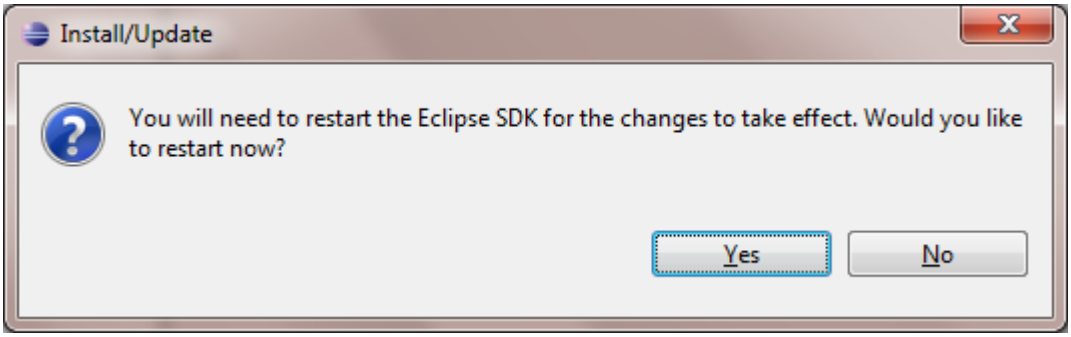
Select the "Help → Software Updates → Manage Configuration..." menu item and expand the Eclipse SDK node to show all features.


Product Configuration
File
Eclipse SDK
Eclipse Project SDK 3.3.2.R33x_r20071022-7M7J7
Eclipse Project SDK Translations 3.3.1.v20070927
Eclipse Project SDK Translations 3.3.1.v20070927
Graphical Editing Framework 3.3.1.v20070814
Graphical Editing Framework Translations 3.3.1.
Graphical Editing Framework Translations 3.3.1.
IBM WebSphere MQ Explorer 7.0.1.8
QDepth Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.0
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer featu
Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer featur
WebSphere MQ Explorer 7.0.1.0
WebSphere MQ Explorer help 7.0.1.8
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.0
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) The Queue Dashboard feature can be used as an education tool, and for an application developer or performance tester to generate, watch and trigger event activity on a selected queue.
Available Tasks
Disable
You can enable or disable the functionality of a feature. The feature is not removed by this action.
Show Properties
View properties of the feature such as version, provider name, license agreement etc.
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.0

1. Select “Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)”, press right mouse button and select the “Uninstall” menu item.



2. Press the “OK” button to uninstall or Cancel to stop uninstall


Install/Update
You will need to restart the Eclipse SDK for the changes to take effect. Would you like to restart now?
Yes
No

3. Press the “Yes” to restart the MQ Explorer.

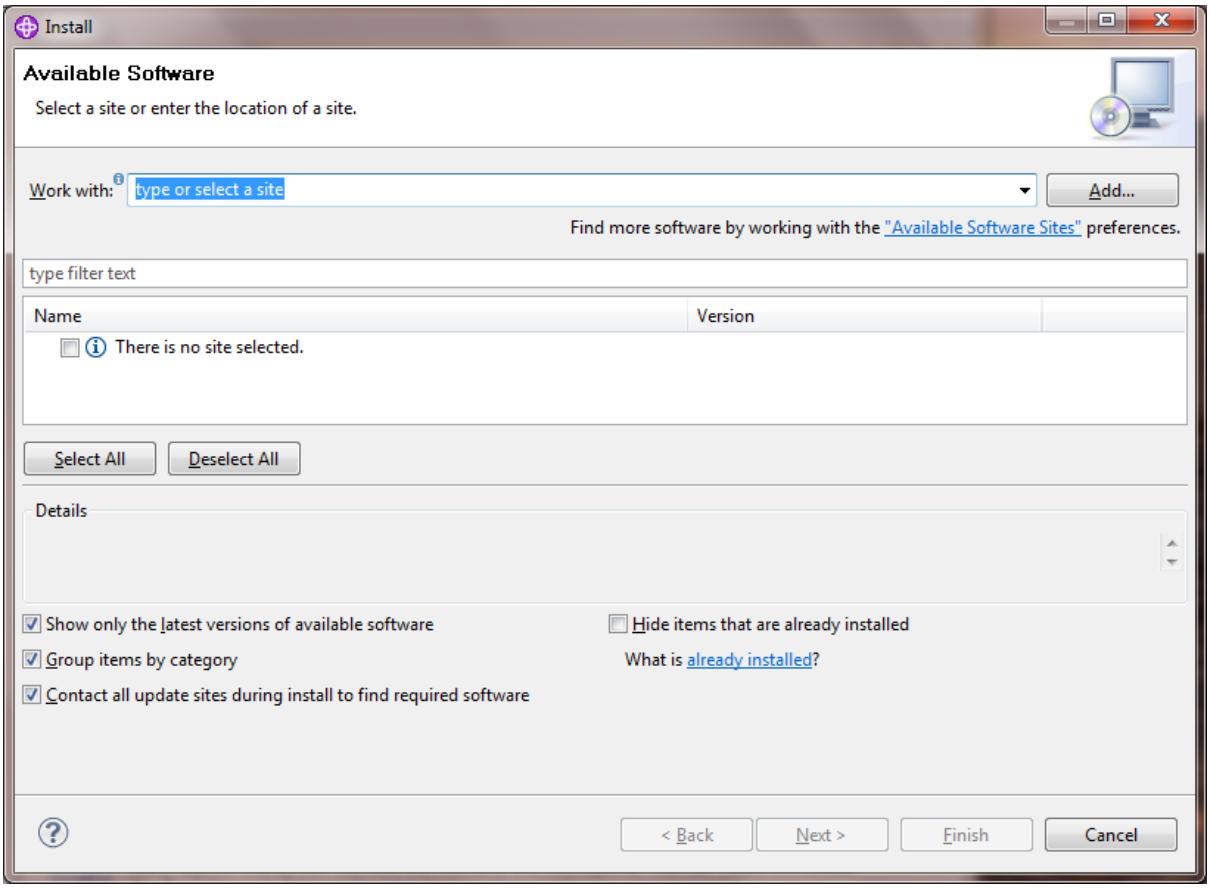
Note uninstalling a feature from Eclipse does not remove the jar files from the plugin sub-directory that make up the feature and it is recommended these files are not deleted.

Installing GSS Queue Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x

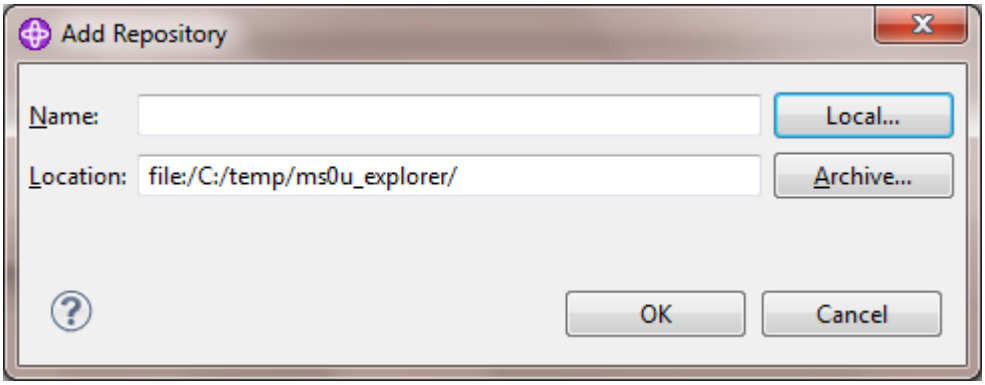
The file called ms0u_explorer.zip can be downloaded as part of the **MS0U** SupportPac from www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#4. Unzip the file into a temporary location, for example, c:\temp\ms0u_explorer

When installing, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select "WebSphere MQ Explorer" from the "IBM WebSphere MQ" folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right mouse button and choose the option to "Run as administrator".

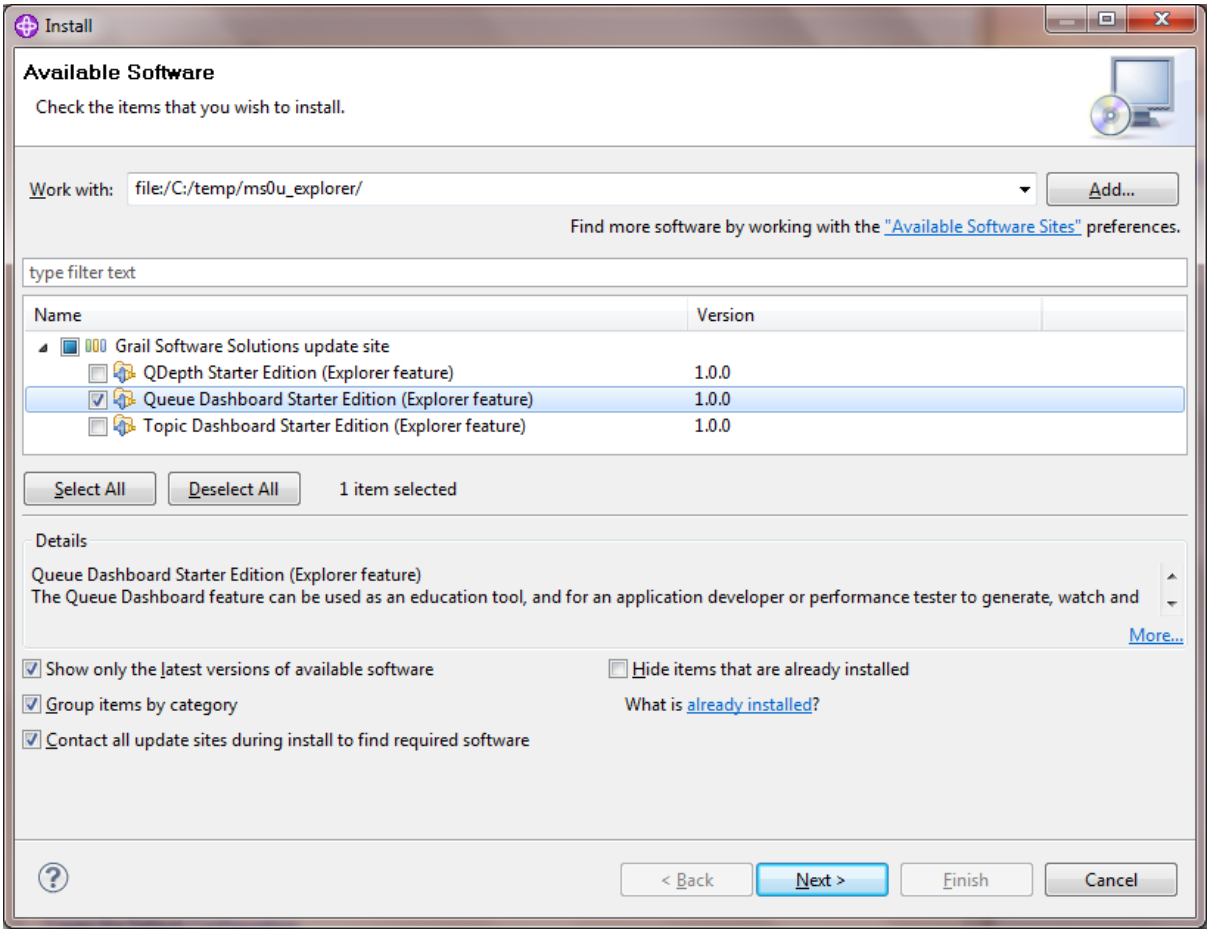
Select the "Help → Install New Software..." menu item.



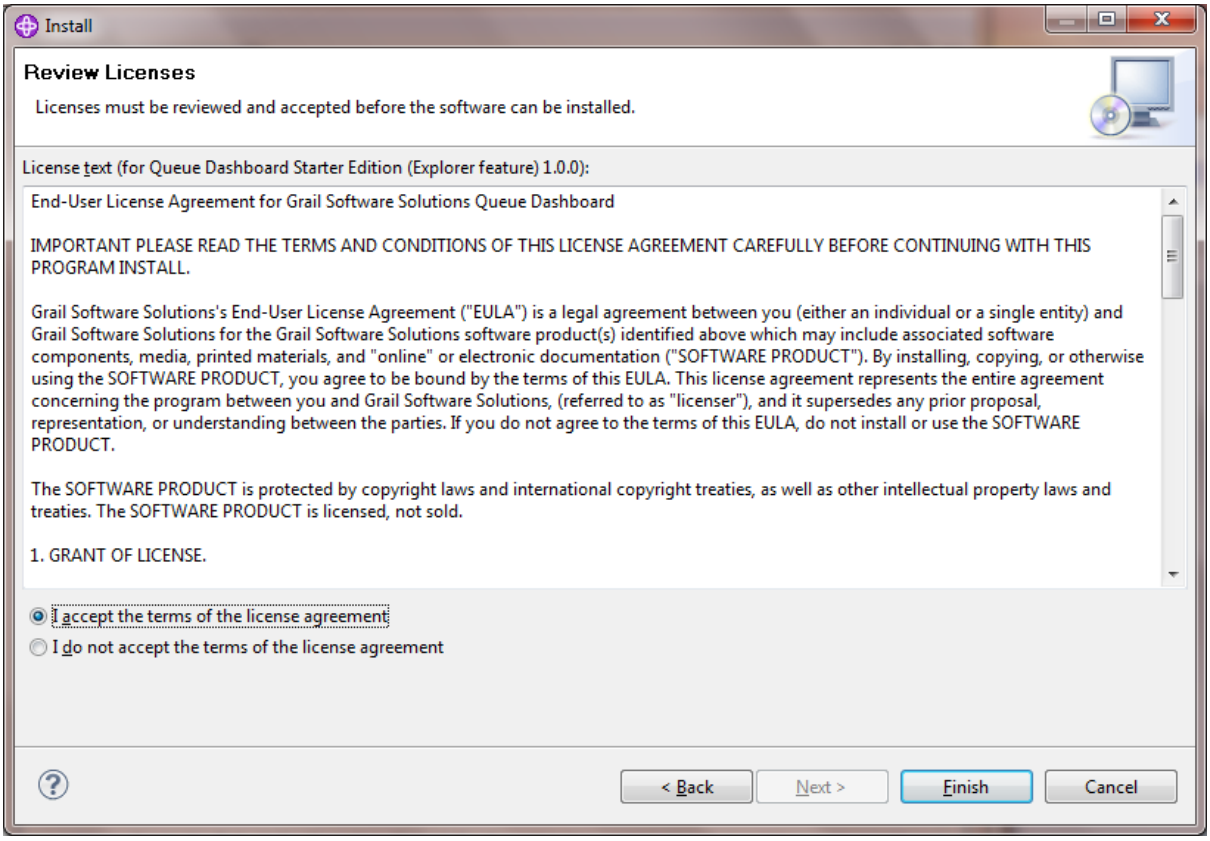
1. Press the "Add..." button
2. Press the "Local..." button on the Add Repository dialog
3. Select the directory containing the GSS Queue Dashboard site.xml file (for example c:\temp\ms0u_explorer). You do not need to enter anything in the "Name" field.



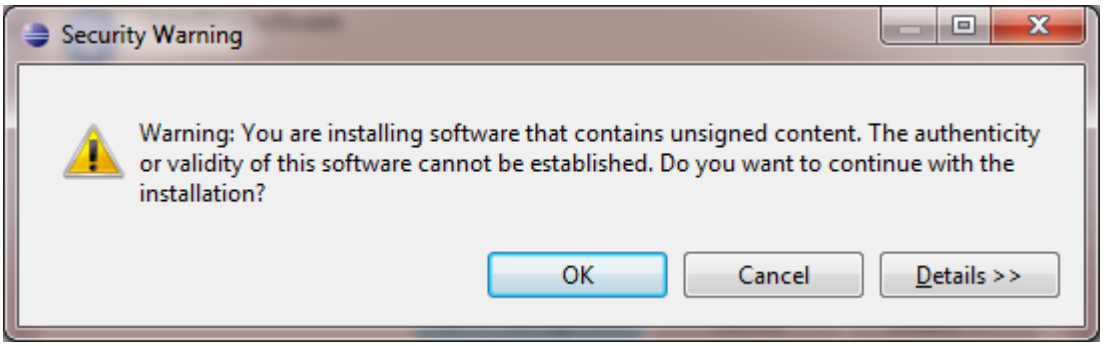
4. Press the “OK” button


Install
Available Software
Check the items that you wish to install.
Work with:
file:/C:/temp/ms0u_explorer/
Add...
Find more software by working with the "Available Software Sites" preferences.
type filter text
Name
Version
Grail Software Solutions update site
QDepth Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
1.0.0
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
1.0.0
Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
1.0.0
Select All
Deselect All
1 item selected
Details
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
The Queue Dashboard feature can be used as an education tool, and for an application developer or performance tester to generate, watch and
More...
Show only the latest versions of available software
Hide items that are already installed
Group items by category
What is already installed?
Contact all update sites during install to find required software
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

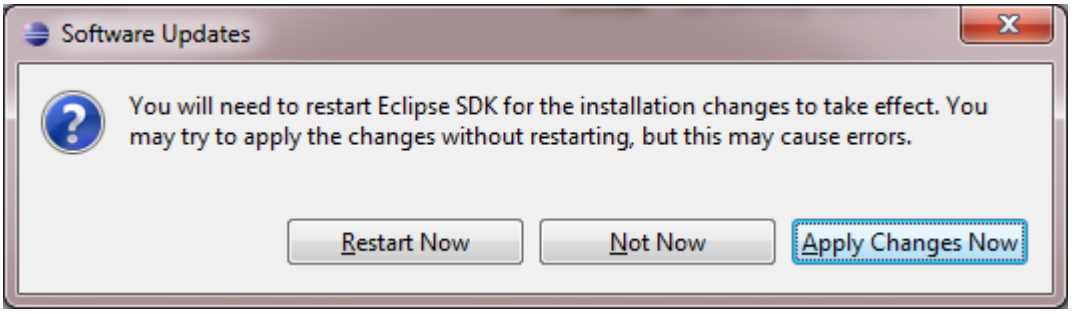
5. From the Available Software dialog, expand the “Grail Software Solutions update site” node and select the GSS Queue Dashboard Explorer Feature from the drop down list
6. Press the “Next” button to review the items to be installed.
7. Press the “Next” button again


Install
Review Licenses
Licenses must be reviewed and accepted before the software can be installed.
License text (for Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.0):
End-User License Agreement for Grail Software Solutions Queue Dashboard
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING WITH THIS PROGRAM INSTALL.
Grail Software Solutions's End-User License Agreement ("EULA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity) and Grail Software Solutions for the Grail Software Solutions software product(s) identified above which may include associated software components, media, printed materials, and "online" or electronic documentation ("SOFTWARE PRODUCT"). By installing, copying, or otherwise using the SOFTWARE PRODUCT, you agree to be bound by the terms of this EULA. This license agreement represents the entire agreement concerning the program between you and Grail Software Solutions, (referred to as "licenser"), and it supersedes any prior proposal, representation, or understanding between the parties. If you do not agree to the terms of this EULA, do not install or use the SOFTWARE PRODUCT.
The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is protected by copyright laws and international copyright treaties, as well as other intellectual property laws and treaties. The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is licensed, not sold.
1. GRANT OF LICENSE.
I accept the terms of the license agreement
I do not accept the terms of the license agreement
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

8. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement
9. Press the “Finish” button (or “Cancel” to stop the installation)


Security Warning
Warning: You are installing software that contains unsigned content. The authenticity or validity of this software cannot be established. Do you want to continue with the installation?
OK
Cancel
Details >>

10. A security warning may be shown saying "Warning: you are installing software that contains unsigned content...” Press the “OK” button to continue the installation or “Cancel” to quit the installation.

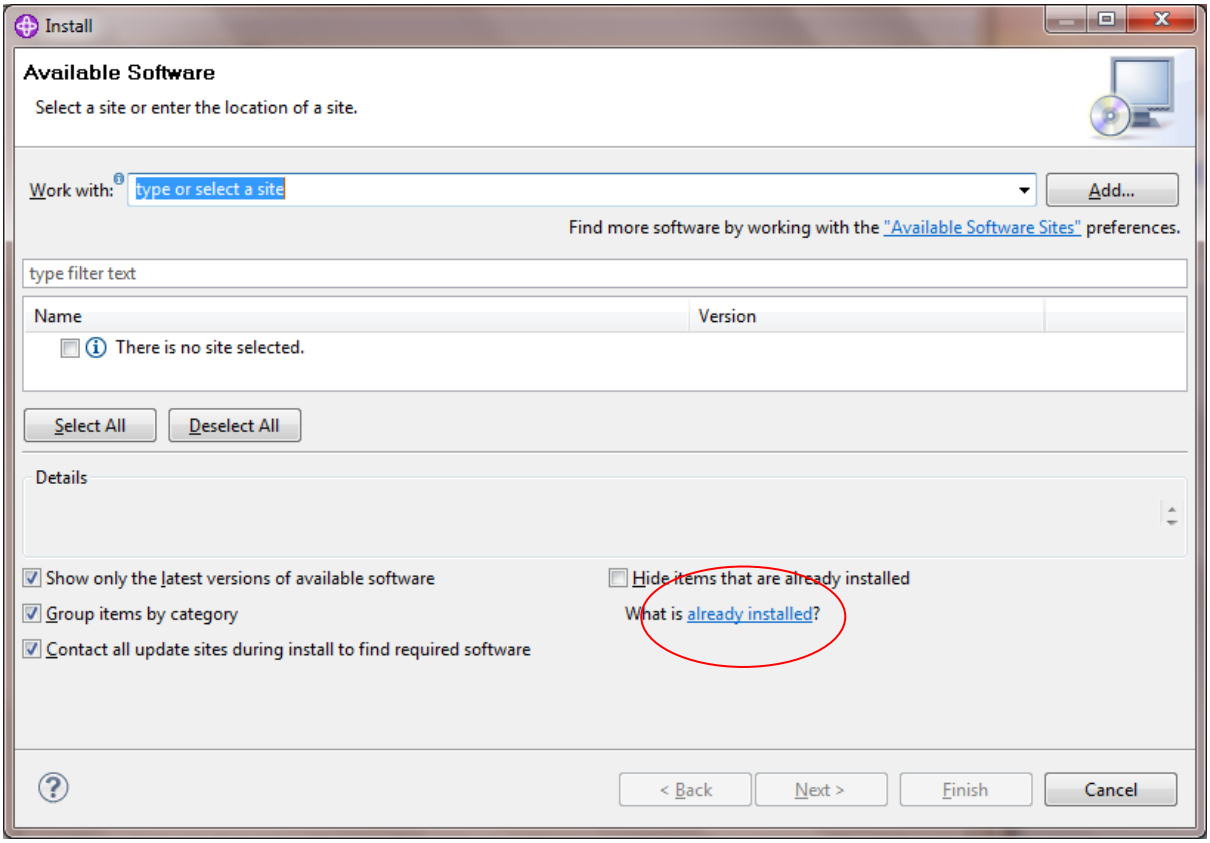

Software Updates
You will need to restart Eclipse SDK for the installation changes to take effect. You may try to apply the changes without restarting, but this may cause errors.
Restart Now
Not Now
Apply Changes Now

11. Press the “Restart Now” button to restart the MQ Explorer.

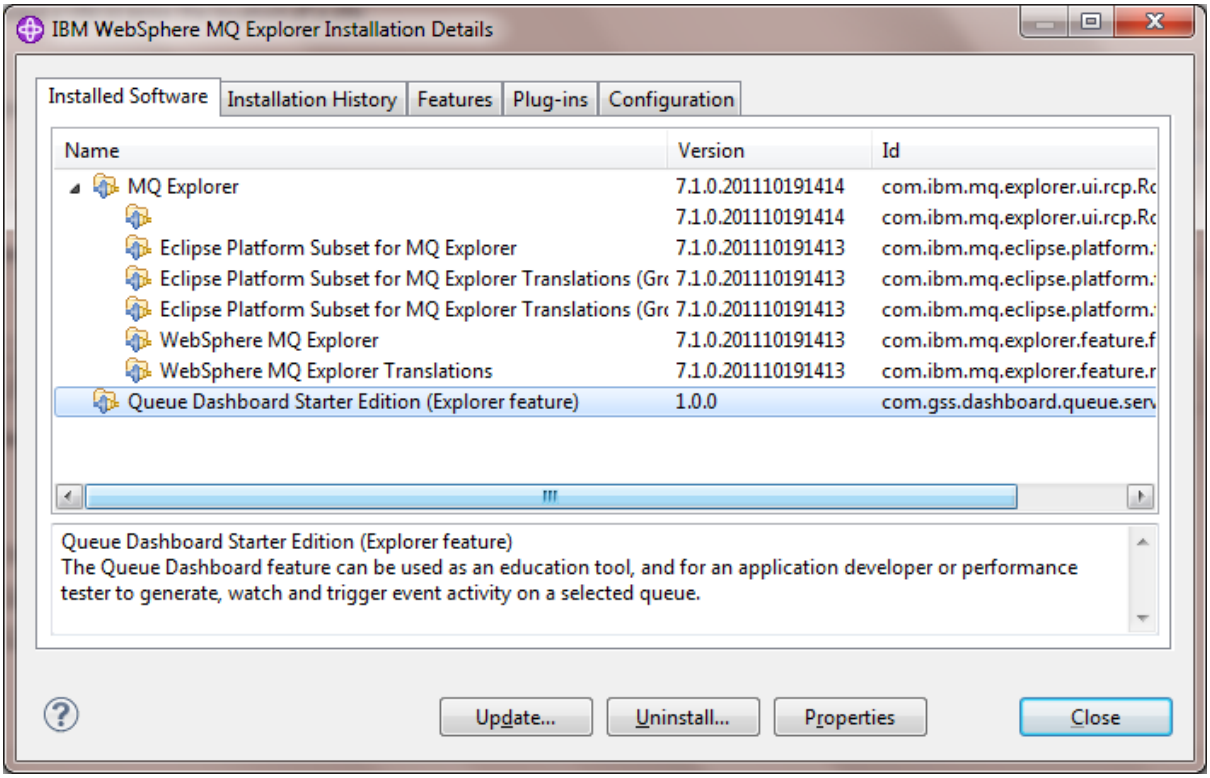
Uninstalling GSS Queue Dashboard from MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x

When uninstalling, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select “WebSphere MQ Explorer” from the “IBM WebSphere MQ” folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right mouse button and choose the option to “Run as administrator”.

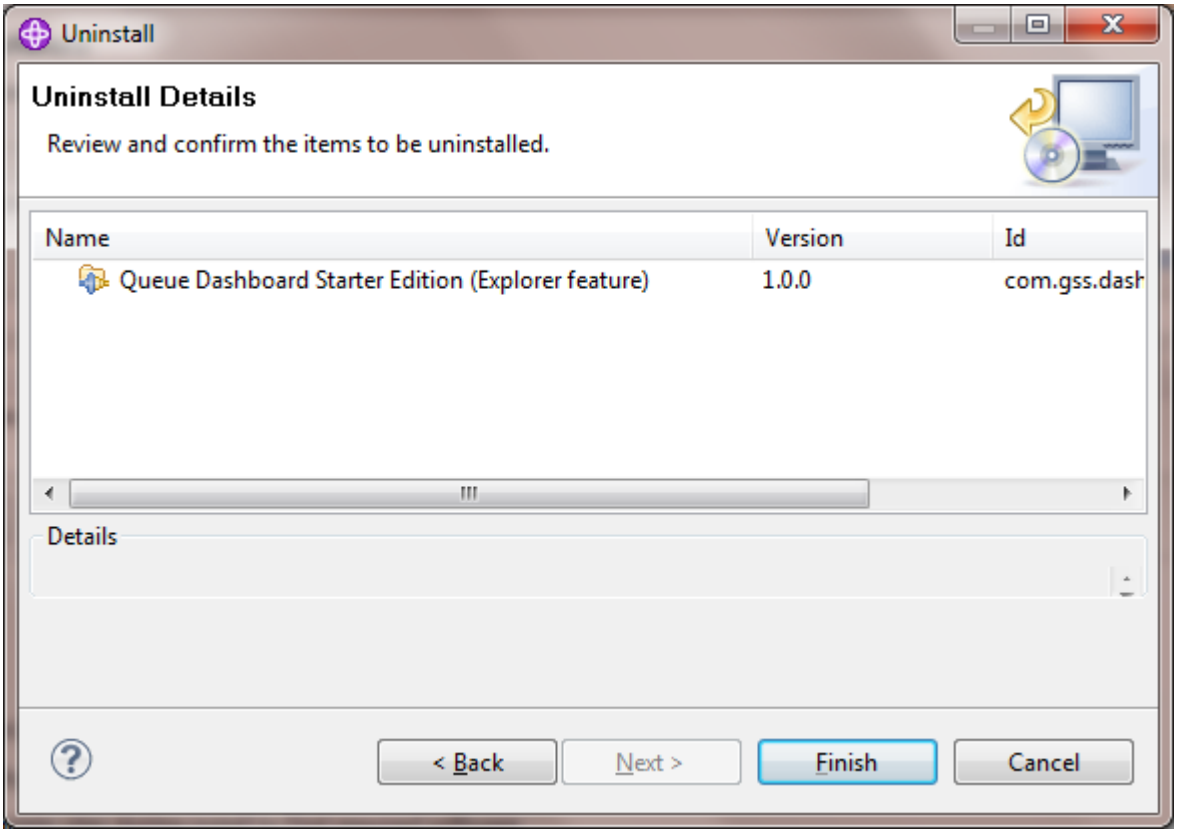
Select the "Help → Install New Software..." menu item.



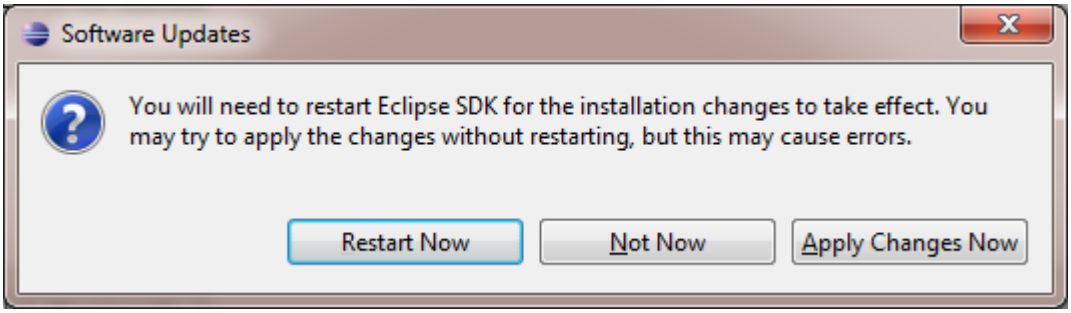
1. Press the link in "What is already installed?"


IBM WebSphere MQ Explorer Installation Details
Installed Software
Installation History
Features
Plug-ins
Configuration
Name
Version
Id
MQ Explorer 7.1.0.201110191414 com.ibm.mq.explorer.ui.rcp.Rc
7.1.0.201110191414 com.ibm.mq.explorer.ui.rcp.Rc
Eclipse Platform Subset for MQ Explorer 7.1.0.201110191413 com.ibm.mq.eclipse.platform.
Eclipse Platform Subset for MQ Explorer Translations (Gr 7.1.0.201110191413 com.ibm.mq.eclipse.platform.
Eclipse Platform Subset for MQ Explorer Translations (Gr 7.1.0.201110191413 com.ibm.mq.eclipse.platform.
WebSphere MQ Explorer 7.1.0.201110191413 com.ibm.mq.explorer.feature.f
WebSphere MQ Explorer Translations 7.1.0.201110191413 com.ibm.mq.explorer.feature.r
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.0 com.gss.dashboard.queue.serv
Queue Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
The Queue Dashboard feature can be used as an education tool, and for an application developer or performance tester to generate, watch and trigger event activity on a selected queue.
Update...
Uninstall...
Properties
Close

2. Select the GSS Queue Dashboard (Explorer feature)
3. Press the "Uninstall..." button



4. Press the “Finish” button to uninstall or Cancel to stop uninstall

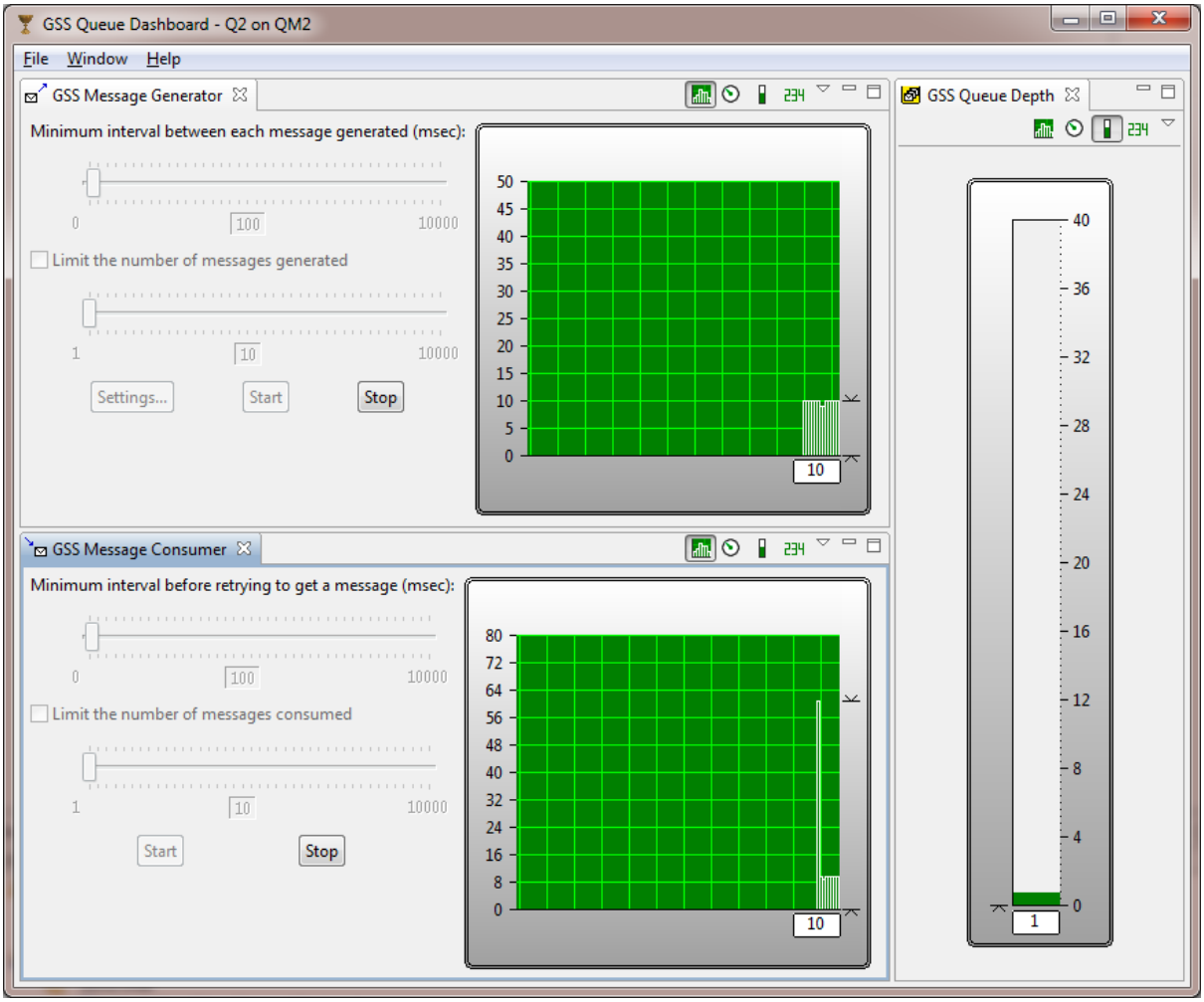

Software Updates
You will need to restart Eclipse SDK for the installation changes to take effect. You may try to apply the changes without restarting, but this may cause errors.
Restart Now
Not Now
Apply Changes Now

5. Press the “Restart Now” button to restart the MQ Explorer.

Note uninstalling a feature from Eclipse does not remove the jar files from the plugin sub-directory that make up the feature and it is recommended these files are not deleted.

Starting GSS Queue Dashboard

Open the Queues content page on the MQ Explorer and select a local queue. Press the right mouse button to show a context menu and select “GSS Dashboard...”. This will open the GSS Queue Dashboard in a new window.



Using GSS Queue Dashboard

Initially the GSS Queue Dashboard contains 3 views, 1 to generate messages (PUT) on the selected queue, 1 to consume messages (GET) from the queue and a third view showing the current queue depth.

Each view has a default graphical representation of the action and this can easily be changed by selecting a different icon on the view tool bar or view menu. Closing a view after the “Start” button has been pressed will also stop the current activity.

The message generator and consumer in the same Dashboard share the same connection to the queue manager. The consumer does not perform a get-with-wait as this will stop other activity on the connection. Each consumer will keep consuming messages until there are no more to consume and then it will wait, using the minimum interval before trying again.

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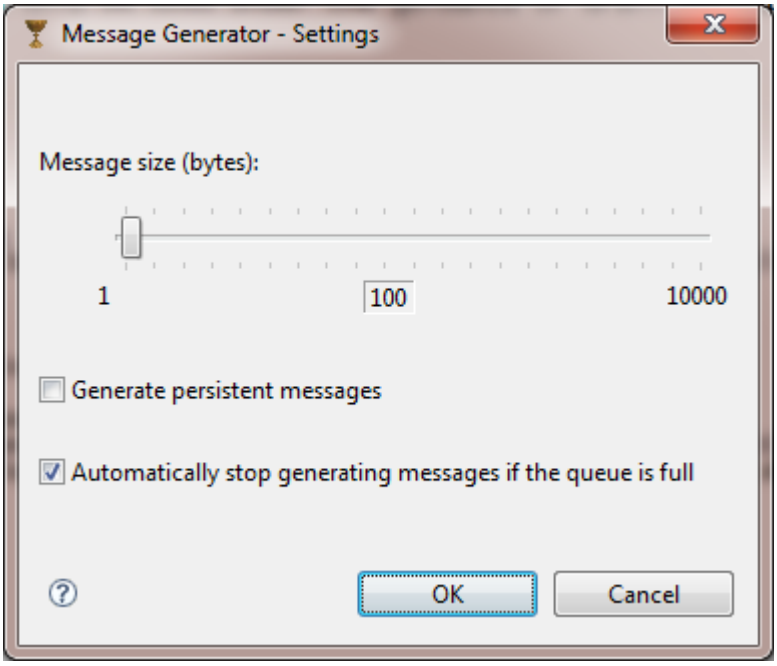
The actions of generating and consuming messages have default values and can be controlled by using the sliders on each view, changing the time interval between each action and limiting the number of messages. Non-persistent messages are generated by default. The “Settings...” button is explained in the next section.

Only GSS generated messages will be consumed from the queue when the Start button is pressed on the message consumer view.

Changing Settings

The “Settings...” button on the message generator view shows the following dialog. This can be used to change the size of each generated message and to use persistent messages. The default is to use non-persistent messages. An option can also be set to stop generating messages when a “queue full” condition occurs. If this is unselected and a “queue full” condition is met, the next message will be generated after the “minimum interval” value.

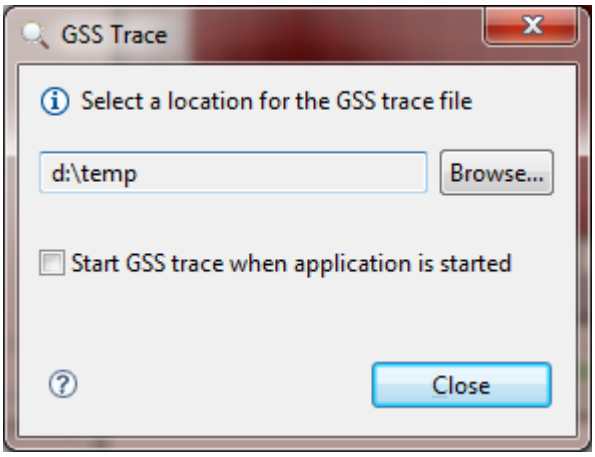


Menus

The GSS Queue Dashboard menu bar has 3 main menus, File, Window and Help.

File → GSS trace → Options...

This menu item will be enabled if there is no location defined for the GSS trace file or GSS trace has not been started. A dialog is shown to define the location for the GSS trace file and to choose whether to start GSS trace the next time the GSS Queue Dashboard is started. Note that GSS trace should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.



File → GSS trace → Start

This menu item will be enabled if a location has been defined for the GSS trace file and GSS trace has not been started. Note that GSS trace should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.

File → GSS trace → Stop

This menu item will be enabled if GSS trace has been started. Note that GSS trace should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.

Window → Show View → GSS Message Consumer

This menu item will give focus to the GSS Message Consumer view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened.

Window → Show View → GSS Message Generator

This menu item will give focus to the GSS Message Generator view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened.

Window → Show View → GSS Queue Depth

This menu item will give focus to the GSS Queue Depth view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened.

Window → Show View → Error Log

This menu item will give focus to the Eclipse™ Error Log view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened. Note this view should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.

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Window → Reset Perspective

This menu item will reset the perspective back to its original state, showing the GSS Message Generator view, GSS Message Consumer view and GSS Queue Depth view in their default locations. Any other opened views will be closed.

Window → Navigation → Show View Menu

This menu item will open the view menu for the view that currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Maximize Active View or Editor

This menu item will maximize the view that currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Minimize Active View or Editor

This menu item will minimize the view that currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Next View

This menu item will give focus to the next view from that which currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Previous View

This menu item will give focus to the previous view from that which currently has focus.

Help → Help Contents

This menu item will open the Eclipse™ help Infocenter.

Help → Search

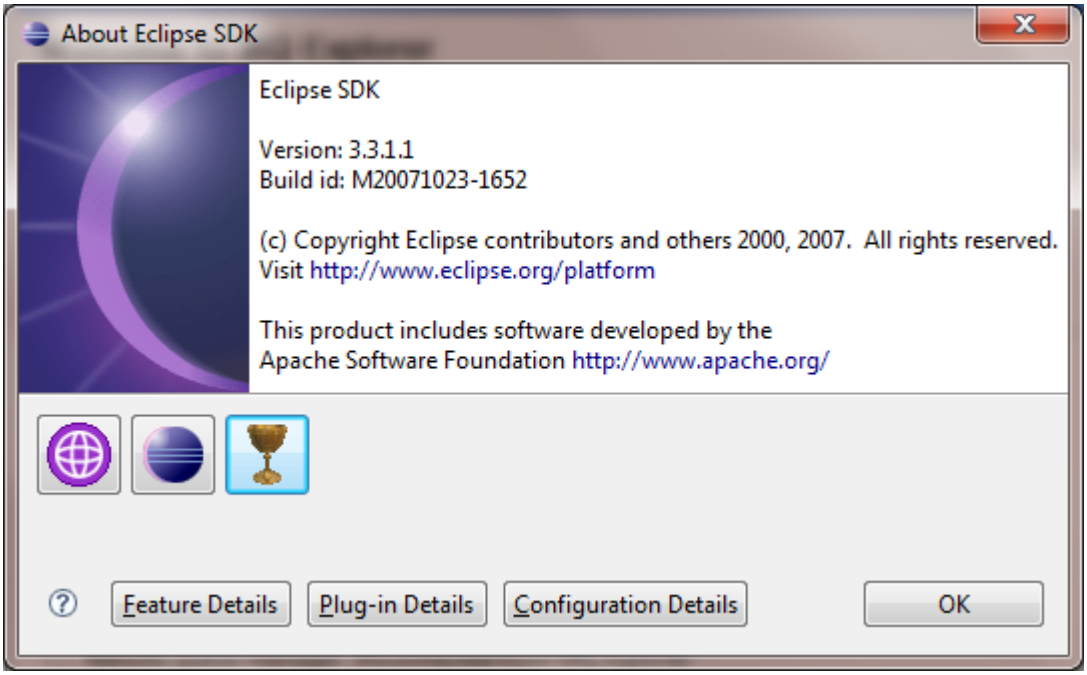
This menu item will open the Eclipse™ help tray view, with a search field.

Help → Dynamic Help

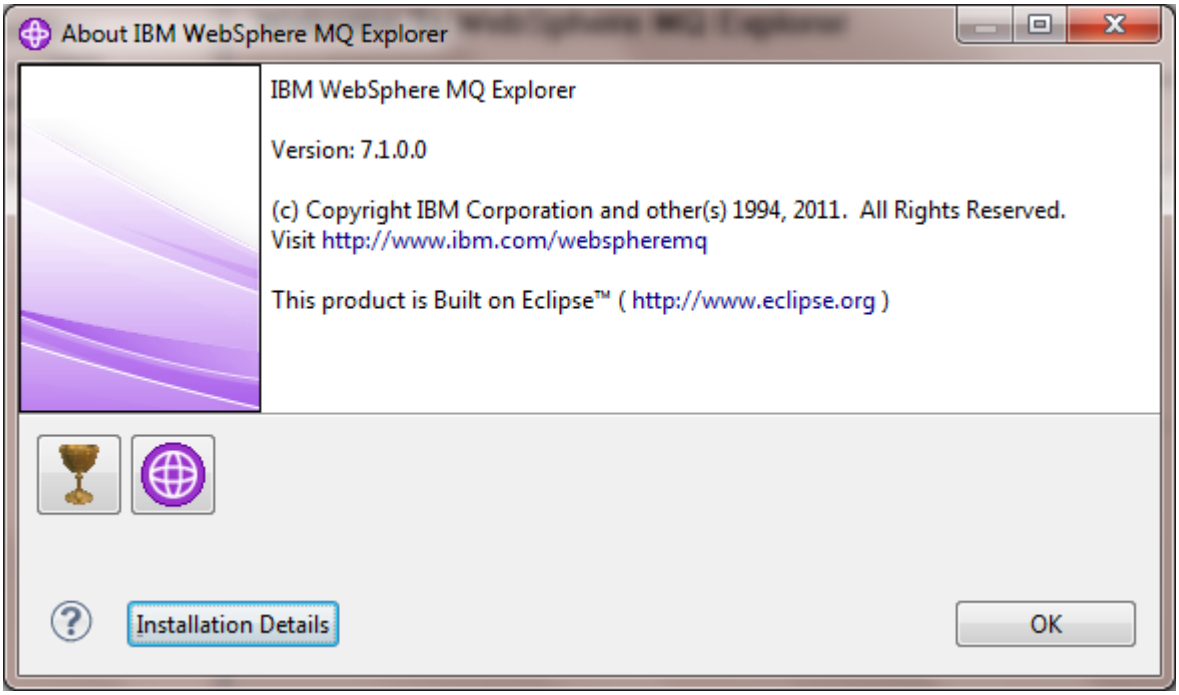
This menu item will open the Eclipse™ help tray and show the online help for the currently selected view.

Help → About GSS Queue Dashboard

This menu item displays a dialog providing information about the MQ Explorer and the GSS Queue Dashboard. The appearance of this dialog can vary with the version of MQ Explorer installed, for example on MQ Explorer 7.0.1.8 it looks like this:



and on MQ Explorer 7.1.0.0 it looks like this


About IBM WebSphere MQ Explorer
IBM WebSphere MQ Explorer
Version: 7.1.0.0
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Visit http://www.ibm.com/webspheremq
This product is Built on Eclipse™ (http://www.eclipse.org)
Installation Details
OK

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